

Dedham Feb. 9. 1871.

I return you a thousand thanks, my Dear friend, for the copy & most welcome letter at I found awaiting my return from a visit to Cambridge & Boston last evening. The intelligence of the prosperity & improving health of the dear travellers was indeed most welcome, & it was made doubly so by the kindness at induced you to take so much pains in my behalf. By the way, your letter at is dated the 1st, did not arrive till Saturday night, & was not rec'd. by me until Monday aft., at. must be my excuse for not acknowledging its arrival sooner. I wrote a letter to Maria last week & left it at W. Chapman's - & if I have time & inclination I will send another. The trouble about writing to them is that they have such pestilent good correspondents of their own household that I know there is no earthly thing left for me to say in the way of fact - so that I have to spin my cobweb of a narrative out of my own brain - so that my epistles can have no value except such as they derive from their being proofs of friendship & affectionate remembrance. I trust you will let me see Maria's letter [a suit part of it as are not enclosed in brackets, not to be shown to Uncle Lelby] when I next see you; & that you will keep me informed of the advices you receive from them; for you may be sure, that now as, out of your immediate family circle, feels a deeper interest in their welfare.

I did write to Collins by the Acadia a long letter, containing all the facts & particulars I could remember, including an account of the Annual Meeting in all its details - so you may tell each other that point. Your description of the office on the morning of the Acadia's sailing was truly prophetic. I wrote a line to you to elect yourself a committee of superintendence of the transmission of documents to Capt. I well remember to have seen Ames' unlucky packet for Mr. Pease lying on the deck of the Steamer the office on the day of the sailing of the last packet - pale the philosopher of his community with all my injuries as to its destiny were answered - but I did not know before that it never went.

I think the woman question had better be practically carried out at the office - for the A.S. women are certainly more executive than most of the brethren. Now I think a couple of the sisters under the direction of Chase, would do capital well. I never thought of it till this moment - but it is borne in upon my mind, as we Quakers say, that it would be a capital plan - what say you?

Talking of Quakers, I went to Lynn last week & delivered my Quaker Lecture before a very good audience. The Quakers were well pleased with it, as I understood. I fear their good opinion of me will last no longer than the appearance of the next R. Reprint in a week. I am down on the present generation. I staid at W^m Babett's where Abby Kelly & sundry other friends spent the afternoon & part of the evening. Among them Eliza^h Whittier (Lobes sister) a poor little Quaker, with tremendous black eyes, who was apparently a little on course for total abstinence we walked into New York Saturday. Abby is one of the most charming women of my acquaintance. Her experience of the last year or so, in bringing her in contact with men & society has been of great service to her both in mind & manners. It is not the pleasantest way of seeing the world but I am as sure that it is not the best for the character. She intends going back and botching the Connecticut poems again. What a development of what New Prof^t is now contained in ^{the} her article copied into the last Report of Oppression? The cloven foot seems to be protruded so as to form itself upon the notion of the Pandamonium for which it was intended.

On returning from Lynn on Thursday morning Garrison & I went, at Clothe Fippins request, to a phrenologist room (one Coombes) to have our heads examined. While the operation was going on, the excellent Clotheairne was very popular & significant, giving the philosophers to understand that they were as common folks who were under his manipulation. After the examination was over he wished to know who the two illus-
-trippins were who had favored him with their crania

whereupon ~~the~~ ^{the} worthy Phenomenist informed him that they were the two most remarkable men in the country (upon which the excited bumpolologist picked up his ears, probably expecting to hear the names of Dan'l Webster & W. L. Chapin) - none other indeed than W. Lloyd Garrison & Edw. Quincy!! I must give Mr. Combs credit for a large organ of part-his-contenance-attireness - for he received the communication with the most surprising exultation, considering that he had never heard, certainly, of one of the celebrated persons before him, & thought he might have heard of the other, but probably never heard & had any idea of him except of a vulgar fellow who "went with niggers". His distinguished visitors, if they did not look like the greatest men in the country were not very few, for the result from looking like the greatest fools in the country. After having had greatness thus unconsciously thrust upon us by poor Colder we went ^{our} way, owing we would never ~~go~~ trust ourselves in his affectionate clutches again. ^{The Abolitionist} ~~He~~ gave us flaming character, of course, as all phenomenists do that I ever heard of. I about like to see one who had told a man that his animal propensities predominated over his moral sentiments - that he was deficient in benevolence & personal courage, & that his alimentiveness was enormous. I suppose this man would give Colver or Torrey almost identically the same character that he did to Garrison.

I do not know whether you have heard that Theodore Parker came out on Sunday before last with an Anti-Slavery sermon. Mr. Combs, a portioner of his, & ^{the} Abolition of his power, who is an old Society & Liberator man, told me that it was through his mistake. And I should judge so too by what Parker told me of it - but he has promised me to bring it with him when he next comes to see me and read it to me. He has before recopied the A. J. & M. R. movements as the chief, if not the only, manifestations of Christianity in the present age, without any Emersonian or Channingian qualifications. I think that we shall get some work

out of him in some way. He is, I should judge from what he says, about converted to pro-slavery ideas. Ripley, by the way, Mr. Parker tells me is a thorough slaveholder. Parker is a very remarkable man - a rare instance of a man who has raised himself by the force of his own energies, & by self education, to the rank of the most learned man in the country, who ~~is~~ is not overlaid by his knowledge & confined to the growth of hopeless Conservatism. You of course will not count much upon him yet - nor do I - only I hope, for his temptations are many & strong. I went to his church in the aft^{er} & heard him preach a most capital sermon on Proprietary - the Scripture of the pulpit, street, politics, church & pulpit. He has already pretty nearly preached himself out of all

Feb. 9th 1841
very interesting
Theodore. Parker
Chancery Hall

Miss Garrison Weston
(I have left at Mr. Chapman's
Opposite the Senate.)

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or thoughts & opinions. They will not be as open as ever are now & whether you have anything, or not, or not done & all when you see them, & tell me about it. Many thanks & good-bye.

respectable pulpit & will ere long I think preach himself out of his pro-slavery. The saying the call for the Lib. Com. does of infinite service to him & I think may be the turning point in his life - as it helped him to get rid of a large proportion of that unpalatable which is the first thing a man has to free himself from when he wants to be good for anything - & moreover it enforced upon him a very wholesome sense of odium - the true baptism by fire - & I think he will stand it. My sister who is to take this letter is on the eve of her departure so that I must return to a conclusion. I thank you again for your letter, & I pray you do not apologize for the length of your letters - you know me, as ought to, well enough to be sure that they